

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

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PRICE TWO CENTS

IMMEDIATE AND GENERAL COMPULSORY ARMY SERVICE IS PLANNED BY BRITISH PARLIAMENT

GRAPHOPHONE CO. BUYS BIRDSEYE, SOMERS SHOP; WILL HIRE 3,000 HANDS

Coupled with the news of its purchase of the Birdseye-Somers Co. plant in Barnum avenue, the American Graphophone Co. today announced plans for the construction of a vast branch factory on the East Side.

The Birdseye-Somers Co. factory, known as "The University of Corsets," was bought by the Graphophone company at a figure said to be close to \$200,000. The corset company was vacating the plant as soon as practicable, and the Graphophone company will move several departments to the factory.

According to information offered by H. A. Budlong, assistant manager, the Graphophone company this summer will build several factories on the seven acres that surround the present plant in Barnum avenue. It is planned, Mr. Budlong said, to have a plant on the East Side employing 3,000 hands. The plant will manufacture records and machines.

At the office of the Birdseye-Somers Co., no information regarding the sale or the future plans of the company was disclosed. It is probable that the plant will continue operations on a smaller scale in leased quarters. At present about 600 hands, mostly women, are employed at the factory.

The Graphophone Co. has been using the old plant of the corset company, in Kosuth street, for some months. The Federal tax stamps on the deed filed in the town clerk's office today show that \$15,000 was paid in cash and the deed itself shows a mortgage of \$30,000, making the purchase price \$45,000 in all. The property has a frontage of 150 feet on Barnum avenue, 500 feet on Grant street, 121 feet on Summerfield avenue and on the north side 150 feet on the property of Lewis W. Leonard, Eugene L. and Frank L. Wells. The American Graphophone Co. has for a time carried on part of its business in the old Birdseye-Somers Co. factory in Kosuth street.

The "University of Corsets," as the Birdseye-Somers plant was known, was built in 1913 at a cost of a quarter of a million dollars. It was a complete innovation in factory construction and was one of the most modernly appointed manufacturing plants in the east. Concrete and reinforced steel were used in the construction of the four-story factory. Rest rooms, restaurants, a hospital and other conveniences for the employees made it a model factory.

The Birdseye-Somers Co. was founded by I. W. Birdseye in 1880 as a branch of his factory then operating in Derby. It occupied part of the Hows factory in Kosuth street. A disastrous fire some years later caused the removal to the Hotchkiss factory in the same street and new buildings were erected by the company. The Derby plant was then moved here.

About ten years ago the Birdseye-Somers Co. was incorporated with Thomas F. Somers as president. Mr. Birdseye retired from active business about that time. The construction of the handsome factory in the beautifully appointed grounds in Barnum avenue was completed in 1912.

ATTORNEY MAG GETS MERIDEN CITY JOB

Meriden, May 2.—Attorney I. Henry Mag today was appointed corporation counsel by Mayor Joseph A. Cooke, for the unexpired term of Judge D. T. O'Brien, Jr., resigned. Attorney Mag has been assistant corporation counsel since Mayor Cooke's incumbency. He is well known in legal and legal circles throughout the State.

DECISION RESERVED ON MOLL PETITION

After lengthy hearings, the Moll case drew near a close in the probate court yesterday when attorneys interested summed up before Judge Miller in the probate court. The hearings have been on the petition of Lilly Thorpe and Theresa Oberley to have their brother, Gustave Moll, removed as conservator of the mother, Theresa Moll.

Attorneys DeForest & Klein for the petitioners, have charged that Mrs. Moll was neglected by her son. Attorneys DeLaney and Nobbs for Gustave Moll responded that it was a family row in which the daughters were not satisfied with the division of their mother's property.

The judge reserved decision.

DRIVES HORSES SWIFTLY ON MAIN STREET AND IS HALED TO COURT

John O'Connor, who gave his residence as 188 Pembroke street but who the police say lives at 238 Crescent avenue, drove a pair of fast horses down Main street last night at a reckless rate of speed. When a policeman attempted to stop the team O'Connor merely whipped up the horses and passed a laughing goody to the law enforcer. He found the policeman waiting at a stable or him. In court this morning a 10 day sentence was suspended by Judge Wilder.

RIKER TRUCK IS REVOLUTIONARY MOTOR DEVICE

What is probably the first instance of automobile trucks doing service on railroad lines was recorded Sunday when a motor truck invented by A. L. Riker of this city and made at the plant of the Locomobile Co. here surprised General Scott and Funtun by its efficiency in their chase of Villa.

From Columbus, N. M., to El Paso, Tex., 3 miles, the truck ran over the rails of the El Paso & Southwestern system. Twenty soldiers of the Twentieth infantry, a machine gun and equipment were on board. An average speed of 18 miles an hour was maintained.

On arrival at El Paso the truck, carrying its armed escort, was driven off the rails and over the road to Gen. Scott's hotel, where the army officers made a careful inspection of it. The truck and the engineers declared the test most satisfactory.

The truck left El Paso the same day and traveled, without incident, to Columbus.

The trucks will be used by the U. S. army in Mexico, below Casas Grandes, where Gen. Pershing controls the railroad.

They have been equipped with flanged steel rims, fitted over the wheels, which take the rails the same as a locomotive wheel. The advantage of these flanged rims is that they can be carried on the truck while on regular road service, and when desirable to run the truck over the railway lines they can be fitted over the flanges of the truck wheels, in less than an hour, and the truck is ready to take the rails under its own power. The device was invented and developed by A. L. Riker, vice president and chief engineer of the Locomobile Co. of America.

They are the roads are unfavorable, or are not the shortest distance, between two points, it may be necessary, in an emergency, to transport supplies, and materials of all sorts, by motor truck over the railroad. This is particularly true of the present situation in Mexico, where the roads are almost lost in the desert sand.

The inability of the U. S. forces to use the railroad with regular locomotive equipment and rolling stock in Mexico, has caused untold hardship and deprivation on the part of the American forces at present engaged in the punitive expedition at Mexico.

This latest achievement of A. L. Riker, opens up a new and important field of endeavor for the gas motor truck. Mr. Riker is chairman of the committee on internal communications of the U. S. Naval Advisory board.

LOSES CASH AND RING.

Mrs. Elizabeth Mackey of Devon reported the loss of a handbag containing \$30 in cash and a valuable diamond ring to the police today. According to her revelation she left it in the railway station last night when she went to the platform to greet friends on an incoming train. When she returned the bag was gone.

THE WEATHER

Partly cloudy tonight and Wednesday; cooler tonight.

ALDERMEN GUESTS OF LAKE CO., WIND UP DAY'S SPORT BY VAIN EFFORT TO GIVE AWAY STREETS

What threatened to be the first serious split in the solid Republican phalanx in the common council occurred last night when Alderman Oliver C. Cole of the Eleventh district, attempted to give the Lake interests the permission to close portions of Adams and Jefferson streets.

The row developed after an all day party of a number of aldermen whose festivities began in the forenoon with the launching of the Lake submarine L-5, and whose merriment during the afternoon culminated at night with a determination to jam through the common council the legislation necessary to give the Lake interests the public streets they want for the extension of their plant.

Had the supporters of Alderman Cole stood fast his filibuster would have been successful. Alderman MacFayden, however, was incensed at what he deemed the usurpation of the prerogative of members of the streets and sidewalks committee and the mayor or town clerk over the insurance.

OBREGON IS TOLD U. S. FORCE WON'T BE ORDERED OUT

San Antonio, May 2.—Although the report that Villa bandits have crossed the border into Texas at Lijitas has been received, it was not given credence at army headquarters here today.

El Paso, May 2.—Major General Scott and Funtun held an extended conference today over amplified instructions sent them from Washington in which the administration stated that no agreement was to be reached that was based on the immediate withdrawal of the American troops from Mexico.

Word was then dispatched to General Obregon, minister of war of the United States government and his associates, asking for a second conference to discuss the military questions now involving the two republics. This conference undoubtedly will be held this afternoon in El Paso and there were indications that it would be the last one.

The Mexican conferees, having become acquainted through press despatches with the administration's position on withdrawal, showed their disappointment. There were intimations that they might not further pursue their request for withdrawal. A Mexican conferee said that when the request was not met at this conference there was no reason to fear that serious trouble between the two countries would follow.

UNEASY AT BROWNSVILLE

Brownsville, Tex., May 2.—The hurried calling to quarters at Fort Brown, of two companies of infantry from the target range 10 miles west of here last yesterday caused uneasiness in this vicinity. While officers at Fort Brown declined to give any reason for calling in the infantry, they stated that there was no cause for undue uneasiness.

Reports from Matamoros, the Mexican town opposite Brownsville, stated that there was perceptible unrest among Mexican soldiers there. Several stores, it is said, were looted, the trouble, according to the report, having been brought about by paying off soldiers in Carranza money.

U. M. C. PRIMERS EXPLODE DURING DRYING PROCESS

Primers exploded shortly after eleven o'clock this morning at the Union Metallic Cartridge Co. plant. Nobody was hurt.

Working behind a large shield as usual, alone in a segregated building, Harry Davis was unhurt. He suffered from shock but was able to return and remove the "meat" A board was broken in the side of the building by the force of the explosion.

Davis had primers in a sieve, drying them by hot air, which permeated through the container. Dropping into boxes, one batch exploded. Davis escaped without a burn.

The accident occurred in the house at Seaview avenue and Arctic street, where most of the primer explosions have been.

RESCUE LEAGUE TO HOLD OPEN MEETING

An open meeting of the Animal Rescue league will be held May 15. Non-members may attend. A meeting was held last night in the home of Mrs. William Taylor. It was voted to observe "Be Kind to Animals Week," which begins May 15.

CLOAK MAKERS' STRIKE MAY AFFECT BRIDGEPORT

Because of the likelihood of New York cloak manufacturers "farming out" work in Connecticut as a result of the big garment workers' strike, a branch of the Cloak Makers' union was established here today.

Bridgeport will be headquarters for all Connecticut. It is planned to frustrate attempts of the manufacturers to have their work done in Connecticut cut factories while awaiting a settlement of the strike.

John Pierce, organizer of the International Ladies Garment Workers, arrived here today and he is making preparations to establish headquarters in the Warner building.

HUNDRED STRIKE WHEN ONE GIRL FLOUTS UNIONS

One hundred girl workers of the Crown Corset Co. quit their jobs yesterday because a young woman refused to join their union.

The girls work in the stripping department of the Crown Corset Co., and everyone in the department has joined the union since the strike last summer, except one young woman. Exceptional efforts were made to get her into the organization during the last few weeks, and an ultimatum was given her this week. According to the girls, she has been sneering at the union and dared the members to "do something."

When she hadn't joined by yesterday morning, the other strippers quit work. They left the factory peacefully.

A conference was held yesterday afternoon between the officials of the plant and the union committee. The officials were asked if the 100 girls or the one seemed more important in their eyes. No definite reply was received.

A call was sent to New York for John Pierce, organizer of the International Ladies Garment Workers. Mr. Pierce arrived here this morning and this afternoon is conferring on plans for a course of action.

"There is no reason why this strike should spread now," said an officer of the union today. "We shall await developments. Of course, if the girl continues to work there without joining the union, the rest of the factory workers in the Crown will quit."

"We struck last summer and through our efforts better wages, shorter hours and better working conditions are in force.

"This girl is enjoying the things we obtained and sneering at the ones that obtained them for her.

"We are not asking more money or anything but that this girl join the union—or quit."

The young woman involved is Miss Sadie Quilty, daughter of John J. Quilty, a policeman. The other girls in the shop think her animosity toward the union may be the result of the fact that her father was hit on a knee with a brick last summer during a labor disturbance at the Crane Co.

A meeting of the girls will be held at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

HOD CARRIERS STRIKE FOR WAGE INCREASE; MASONS GO WITH THEM

Hod carriers employed by Dowling & Bottomley on a 12-family brick block at Tenbrooke and Arlie streets, struck for more wages this morning. They had been getting \$2.50. They demanded \$3.25 and when it was not allowed the bricklayers quit with them.

The block is being built for the Keating family, who live at Richardson street and Noble avenue.

STREET SWEEPERS MAY GET 25 CENT INCREASE

The employees of the street department who sweep the pavement are not likely to receive the 50 cents per day increase that they asked of the common council last night, but there is chance they may receive 25 cents per day increase.

A petition signed by all but 10 of the sweeping force was presented to the council last night. It was referred to the ordinance committee. The sweepers three years ago received an advance from \$1.75 to \$2 per day. Members of the ordinance committee are disposed to grant a 25 cents per day raise.

THREE SCHOOL NURSES NAMED AT MEETING OF BOARD OF HEALTH

At a special meeting of the board of health called by Mayor Wilson Saturday night three appointments were made to the staff of that department. The new appointees are:

Miss Mary V. Sullivan, \$2 winter street, school nurse, salary \$800.

Miss Lena Kelly, 716 Park avenue, school nurse, salary \$800.

Benjamin Thorp, 2869 Main street, sanitary inspector, salary \$936.

The meeting was not heralded and as one commissioner expressed it today it "was merely a get-together meeting to get these appointments out of the way." The presence of the mayor was required to bring the meeting to a conclusion.

All other appointments in the board of health were renewed for the coming year. Preliminary discussion of the plans for expending the large appropriation for new quarters was had and it is expected that a decision will be reached at the next meeting.

RESTAURATEURS WHO BROKE LIQUOR LAW RECEIVE HEAVY FINES

Finest aggregating \$400 were imposed and paid in the city court this morning upon Greek-speaking restaurant keepers charged with having sold liquor in violation of the law. The minimum fine was \$25 with a maximum of \$50.

LOVE REJECTED, HE KILLS PRETTY GIRL AND FAHTER

Thompson, Conn., May 2.—George A. Pettis, a well-to-do farmer about 56 years old, and his daughter, Sybil, a school teacher, aged 23, were shot and killed at their home here today by John Elliott, a man of about 45, who is said to have been infatuated with Miss Pettis. Elliott escaped and is being sought by a posse of about 50 men who are scouring the woods to the eastward to the Rhode Island line in which direction Elliott is believed to have gone.

Elliott, armed with two revolvers, appeared at the Pettis home today and while the farmer slept outside the kitchen door, opened fire on him. Elliott, it was said, had previously cut the telephone wires to prevent a call for help being sent out.

Pettis dashed back into the house, Elliott firing several shots after him, through the kitchen door, and through a window. Pettis rushed upstairs to get his rifle but was dissuaded by Mrs. Pettis. Elliott followed him into the house, still firing after him and fatally wounding him.

As the shooting was going on, Miss Pettis came from her room into the hallway and was wounded in the abdomen. She ran into her room crying "John shot me, I am dying," and a few minutes later died. Her father, who had gone to her assistance, was found dead beside her.

Mrs. Pettis confronted Elliott as he stood with smoking revolvers, and asked him not to shoot her as she wished to bury the others already dead. Elliott, according to Mrs. Pettis, told her she had "nerves," and added that he did not mean to shoot the girl and then disappeared.

Outside the house was found a traveling bag containing two revolvers, two large dirk knives, a pair of brass knuckles and two sticks of dynamite. The country eastward is thickly wooded and it is believed Elliott took to the woods in the hope of finding a hiding place. An alarm was sent out by telephone through the whole district and the posse was so organized and in pursuit of him.

Elliott was employed at a horse shed near the trolley station here where people driving in from the outlying districts are accustomed to leave their horses when taking the trolley line. Miss Pettis had been in the habit of leaving her horse there when going to her school, a North Grovesdale and Elliott who, it is said, had given indications of degeneracy, had attempted to pay her attentions but had been rebuffed. He is said to have been drinking heavily last night.

BIRRELL, IRISH SECRETARY, TO RESIGN POST?

London, May 2.—Speaking in the House of Commons this afternoon, Premier Asquith said he hoped to give an early opportunity for discussion of the motion calling for the resignation of Augustine Birrell, chief secretary for Ireland.

SOLDIERS HUNT REBELS.

Dublin, May 2.—Soldiers are completing a thorough search of the city and it is hoped that within a few hours they will account for the last of the snipers and small bands of rebels which have been creating a diversion in the neighborhood of Ball's Bridge. This was subjected to artillery fire on Monday afternoon.

Train communication is still interrupted.

COOKS ASK COURT TO NAME THEM BALLARD

George K. Cook and Ernest M. Cook of this city today filed petitions in the superior court asking to be allowed to take the name of Ballard. George Cook says he was born in this state in 1891 and for the last 20 years has lived in this city. He holds a responsible position at the Crane Co. All his business correspondence is carried on under the name of Ballard, which was his mother's maiden name, and Cook says he is known in business circles as Ballard. In order to avoid confusion he wants to be legally known by that name.

Ernest Cook was born in Darfen in 1890. He is also employed in this city. He gives practically the same reasons for desiring to change his name. The petitions are returnable to the May term of court.

FINED \$25 AND COSTS FOR ROBBER ROOM-MATE

Harry Levy, an inspector at the Remington Arms & Ammunition Co., who described his residence as 294 Fixley place, was fined \$25 and costs in the city court this morning upon charges of theft preferred by his room-mate, Charles Stone.

Stone told the court he was awakened to find Levy breaking over his clothing. "What's the matter?" he asked Levy.

"I've been robbed," Levy said.

Stone found upon examination of his clothing that he himself was the victim and he had Levy arrested. The prisoner confessed.

Premier Asquith Announces That New Military Bill Will Be Introduced Tomorrow in the House of Commons—All Military Questions to Be Included in One Measure

London, May 2.—Premier Asquith declared in the House of Commons this afternoon that a bill to be introduced tomorrow would be one of general and immediate compulsion.

Mr. Asquith told the members of the House of Commons that the total naval and military effort of the British empire since the beginning of the war exceeded five million million.

Premier Asquith said the British army, excluding India and including the Dominions, comprised 83 divisions.

The prime minister announced that the whole recruiting problem would be dealt with in a single bill.

VON BUELOW FOR CONCESSIONS ON U-BOAT QUESTION

Paris, May 2.—A Havas despatch from Bernes says that Prince Von Buelow, former German chancellor, has returned from Switzerland to Germany and is using all his influence in favor of concession by Germany of the demands presented in the American note concerning submarine warfare.

FRENCH CLAIM GAINS.

Paris, May 2.—A strong attack was made by French troops last night on German positions southeast of Fort Douaumont, on the Verdun front. The French captured a first line German trench 500 metres long, the war office announced this afternoon and took 100 men prisoner.

West of the Meuse activity of the artillery continued through the night from the Avocourt region to Dead Man Hill. The war office also announced that in their attacks on April 29 and 30 on the north slope of Dead Man Hill, the French gained German trenches over a front of about 1,000 metres and a depth of 300 to 600 metres.

SOLDIERS FIGHT LILLE FIRE.

London, May 2.—The town hall at Lille, France, has been burned. The librarian, a French woman, selected the most valuable books of the famous library there and handed them to German soldiers who formed a chain to remove them from the building.

The Lille fire department was unable to save the town hall but retarded the spreading of the fire to neighboring buildings.

FAMOUS WHALER TO END CAREER AS SUB TENDER

Destined to be a submarine tender, as the conclusion of a long career as a whaler, the barkentine Morning Star, one of the most famous whaling boats now afloat, arrived Saturday night from New London. The Morning Star, which has sailed practically all over the globe, has been purchased by Sloan & Dannenhauer to be a tender to the submarines at the Lake plant. It will be dismantled and fitted with engines.

The Morning Star was built in Dartmouth, Mass., in 1853, and its home port was New Bedford, Mass. It is full rigged, is 104 feet long, has a breadth of 25 feet and a depth of 13 feet. It carries a crew of 31 men.

The vessel has made hundreds of voyages to all parts of the world. The average voyage was four years, although it was obliged to report at some port every six months. The Morning Star was considered a very lucky vessel.

Recently it has been used in moving pictures taken about New London. The last picture in which it was seen was "Partners of the Tide." The barkentine is at the city dock at the foot of Wall street, where the full square rigging is attracting much attention because boats of the type are seldom seen in this port. It will be towed to the Lake Co. plant where the process of dismantling will be begun immediately.

SECOND OPERATOR AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS HANDS IN RESIGNATION

Lack of harmony in the clerk's office at police headquarters is today given as a reason for the sudden resignation of Grace Drew, telephone operator in the department.

Upon arriving at headquarters today she immediately got in telephone communication with Commissioner John C. Stanley and communicated her resignation, which will take effect on Saturday night. Her reasons as communicated over the wire are refused for publication today by the retiring operator.

It is likely that in future operators employed by the department will shift about on the same schedule as now in force for the patrol platoons.